

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An organism tissue suturing apparatus for suturing a penetrated hole formed subcutaneously in a tissue membrane of an organism, comprising:

a body part, with a predetermined length, having a rotary portion and can be inserted into said tissue of said organism from said hole;

two hollow needle members accommodated in a portion, inside said body part, rearward from said rotary portion;

a needle member operation portion for advancing said two hollow needle members toward said rotary portion from a side surface of said body part; and

two openings disposed at a rear-most portion of said body part and communicating with lumens of said two hollow needle members,

wherein said rotary portion has two needle member receiving portions for receiving a distal end of one of said hollow needle members and that of the other of said hollow needle members respectively pressed out of said body part; and a connection duct communicating with said two needle member receiving portions; and

[[a]] one continuous duct for a suturing thread is formed to range from one of said two openings to the other of said openings through one of said lumens of one of said two hollow needle members, said connection duct of said rotary portion, and the other of said lumens of the other of said two hollow needle members, when said two needle member receiving portions receive said hollow needle members respectively at a same time.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a suturing member which can be inserted into said duct for a suturing thread; and said suturing member includes a guide portion linearly formed of an elastic material and a suturing thread portion provided on said guide portion.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said rotary portion has a thread pull-out slit extending from an upper surface thereof and communicating with said two needle member receiving portions and said connection duct.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a rotary portion towing wire which extends inside said body part and is fixed to said rotary portion at one end thereof, wherein said body part has a supporting pin for rotatably supporting said rotary portion; and said rotary portion has a side-surface opening, for receiving said supporting pin, formed long and axially extending to allow sliding of said supporting pin.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a rotation angle restriction function permitting a rotation of said rotary portion between a state in which said rotary portion is on an approximate extension line of an axis of said body part and a predetermined angle less than 90 degrees.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising an urging member for urging said needle member operation

portion or said hollow needle member rearward and a stopper configured to stop said hollow needle members at a position pressed by said needle member operation portion.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein an opening is formed at a rear end of said needle member operation portion.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus for suturing a penetrated hole formed subcutaneously in a tissue membrane of an organism comprising:

a body part, with a predetermined length, having a rotary portion and can be inserted into said tissue of said organism from said hole; at least one needle accommodated in a portion, inside said body part, rearward from said rotary portion; a thread joined with said needle; and a pressing member for advancing said needle from a side surface of said body part and pressing said needle into said rotary portion,

wherein said rotary portion has a needle receiving portion for receiving said needle pressed into said rotary portion by said pressing member, with said rotary portion disposed in said tissue of said organism.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a rotation angle restriction function permitting a rotation of said rotary portion between a state in which said rotary portion is on an approximate extension line of an axis of said body part and a predetermined angle less than 90 degrees.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a rotary portion towing wire which extends inside said body part and is fixed to said rotary portion at one end thereof, wherein said body part has a supporting pin for

rotatably supporting said rotary portion; and said rotary portion has a side-surface opening, for receiving said supporting pin, formed long and axially extending to allow sliding of said supporting pin.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising an urging member for urging said pressing member rearward.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said body part has two needles accommodated in a portion, inside said body part, at a front side thereof; threads joined with said two needles respectively; and two pressing members for advancing said two needles respectively from a side surface of said body part and pressing said needles respectively into said rotary portion, wherein said needle receiving portion can receive said needles pressed into said rotary portion by said pressing members, with said rotary portion disposed in said tissue of said organism.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus for suturing a penetrated hole formed subcutaneously in a tissue membrane of an organism comprising:

a body part, with a predetermined length, having a rotary portion and can be inserted into said tissue of said organism from said hole; a needle member accommodated inside said body part; an anchor accommodated in said needle member; a thread joined with said anchor; a needle member operation portion for advancing said needle member toward said rotary portion from a side surface, of said body part, disposed at a portion thereof rearward from said rotary portion; and an anchor pressing member for exiting said anchor from a front end of said needle member and pressing said anchor into said rotary portion,

wherein said rotary portion has an anchor receiving portion for receiving said anchor pressed into said rotary portion by said anchor pressing member, with said rotary portion disposed in said tissue of said organism.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising a rotary portion towing wire which extends inside said body part and is fixed to said rotary portion at one end thereof, wherein said body part has a supporting pin for rotatably supporting said rotary portion; and said rotary portion has a side-surface opening, for receiving said supporting pin, formed long and axially extending to allow sliding of said supporting pin.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising a rotation angle restriction function permitting a rotation of said rotary portion between a state in which said rotary portion is on an approximate extension line of an axis of said body part and a predetermined angle less than 90 degrees.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising an urging member for urging said needle member operation portion or said needle member rearward.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising an urging member for urging said anchor pressing member rearward.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said a body part has two needle members accommodated inside said body part; two

anchors accommodated in said needle members respectively; threads joined with said anchors respectively;

wherein said needle member operation portion can project said two needle members toward said rotary portion from a side surface of said body part at a front side thereof, said anchor pressing member can exit said two anchors from a front end of said needle member and pressing said two anchors into said rotary portion, and said anchor receiving portion can receive said two anchors pressed into said rotary portion by said anchor pressing member, with said rotary portion disposed in said tissue of said organism.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a liquid-filling lumen, extending inside said body part, whose one end is open at a position in the vicinity of a front end thereof which can be inserted into a tissue of an organism and whose other end is open at a rear side of said body part; a three-way cock connected to said liquid-filling lumen; a pulsation confirmation member mounted on one port of said three-way cock; and a liquid-filling port formed on another port of said three-way cock,

wherein said three-way cock has an operation portion for selectively communicating said liquid-filling lumen with said one port thereof and said another port thereof.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said rotary portion has a guide wire insertion lumen at a front side thereof.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an introduction wire extending inside said rotary portion, with a front side

protruding from said rotary portion and with a rear side thereof fixed to said body part, without said introduction wire being fixed to said rotary portion.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a tube slidably accommodating a front side of said rotary portion therein; and a connection wire whose front side is fixed to said tube and whose rear side is fixed to said body part, without said connection wire being fixed to said rotary portion.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): An organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a position confirmation mechanism that includes a projectable portion formed at a position of a body part which can be inserted into a blood vessel or a body cavity from said hole in such a way that said projectable portion has a projection state of projecting from said body part when said projectable portion is disposed in said blood vessel or said body cavity and a non-projection state of not projecting from said body part until said projectable portion reaches said blood vessel or said body cavity; and a display portion for discriminating said projection state and said non-projection state of said projectable portion from each other.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A method for suturing a penetrated hole formed in a blood vessel, comprising:

providing an organism tissue suturing apparatus including a body part, with a predetermined length, having a rotary portion rotatably supported to a distal portion of the body part and having a continuous communication duct;

inserting the rotary portion into the blood vessel from the penetrated hole;

rotating the rotary portion in the blood vessel until the body part becomes oblique at a predetermined angle with respect to an axis of the rotary portion, forming one continuous duct for a suturing thread formed to range from a first lumen of a first hollow needle member through said one continuous communication duct of said rotary portion, and a second lumen of a second hollow needle member;

advancing [[a]] the first hollow needle member and [[a]] the second hollow needle member from side surfaces of the body part to a first needle member receiving portion and a second needle member receiving portion of the rotary portion and penetrating through the blood vessel respectively; and

passing [[a]] the suturing thread from a proximal end of the first hollow needle member through [[a]] the first lumen of the first needle member, the first needle member receiving portion, said communication duct in the rotary portion, the second needle member receiving portion, and a second lumen of the second hollow needle member, to a proximal end of the second hollow needle member.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The method for suturing the penetrated hole formed in the blood vessel according to claim 25, further comprising:

returning the first hollow needle member and the second hollow needle member into the body part;

returning the rotary portion to an initial position; and

pulling out the organism tissue suturing apparatus out of the puncture site and leaving the suturing thread.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): An organism tissue suturing apparatus for suturing a penetrated hole formed subcutaneously in a tissue membrane of an organism, comprising:



a body part, with a predetermined length, having a front side part that can be inserted into said tissue of said organism from said hole, a rotary portion can be inserted into said tissue of said organism from said hole and a rear portion that can not be inserted into said organism;

two hollow needle members accommodated in a portion, inside said body part, rearward from said rotary portion;

a needle member operation portion for advancing said two hollow needle members toward said rotary portion from a side surface of said body part; and

two openings disposed at said rear portion of said body part and communicating with lumens of said two hollow needle members,

wherein said rotary portion is rotatably supported to a front end of said body part and has two needle member receiving portions for receiving a distal end of one of said hollow needle members and that of the other of said hollow needle members respectively pressed out of said body part; and a connection duct communicating with said two needle member receiving portions; and

[[a]] one continuous duct for a suturing thread is formed to range from one of said two openings to the other of said openings through one of said lumens of one of said two hollow needle members, said connection duct of said rotary portion, and the other of said lumens of the other of said two hollow needle members, when said two needle member receiving portions receive said hollow needle members respectively at a same time.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 27, further comprising:

an operation part disposed at said rear portion, of the body part, and said two openings are disposed at said operation part.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): An organism tissue suturing apparatus for suturing a penetrated hole formed subcutaneously in a tissue membrane of an organism, comprising:

a body part, with a predetermined length, having a front side part can be inserted into said tissue of said organism from said hole, a rotary portion that can be inserted into said tissue of said organism from said hole, and a rear portion that can not be inserted into said organism;

first and second hollow needle members accommodated in a portion, inside said body part, rearward from said rotary portion;

a needle member operation portion for advancing said first and second hollow needle members toward said rotary portion from a side surface of said body part;

a first opening disposed at said rear portion of said body part and communicating with a first lumen of said first hollow needle member; and

a second opening disposed at said rear portion of said body part and communicating with a second lumen of said second hollow needle member,

wherein said rotary portion is rotatably supported to a front end of said body part and has a first receiving portion for receiving a distal end of said first hollow needle member pressed out of said body part and a second receiving portion for receiving a distal end of said second hollow needle member pressed out of said body part and a connection duct communicating with said first and second receiving portions; and

[[a]] one continuous duct for a suturing thread is formed to range from said first opening to said second opening through said first lumen of said first hollow needle member, said connection duct of said rotary portion, and said second lumen of said second hollow needle member, when said first receiving portion receives the distal end of said first hollow

needle member pressed out of said body part and said second receiving portion receives the distal end of said second hollow needle member pressed out of said body part.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising:

an operation part disposed at said rear portion of the body part, and said two openings are disposed at said operation part.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said two openings exit at the rear-most portion of said organism tissue suturing apparatus, which is an extreme-most portion of said needle member operation portion.

Claim 32 (New): The organism tissue suturing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said rotary portion is attached to a fixed portion of said body part by at least one supporting pin, said at least one supporting pin is housed in at least one side surface opening that is longitudinal and allows the at least one supporting pin to slide in a longitudinal direction within the at least one side surface of said rotary portion.